

Tip of the



Prevention information from The Western Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies

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March 1, 2001

Principles of Effectiveness

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In 1998 the Secretary of Education announced the four Principles of Effectiveness that would govern recipients' use of fiscal year 1998 and future years' funds received under Title IV - State and local programs of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act - the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (SDFSCA) State Grants Program.

The Principles of Effectiveness are:

Principle one

*Programs shall be based on a thorough **needs assessment** of objective data about the drug and violence problems in the schools and communities served.*

Grantees are encouraged to build on existing data collection efforts, examine available data from a variety of resources, and to assess the needs of all segments of youth population.

Principle two

*A set of **measurable goals and objectives** shall be established with the assistance of a local or regional advisory council where required by the SDFSCA, and programs must be designed to meet those goals and objectives.*

Grantees shall develop goals and objectives that focus on behavioral or attitudinal outcomes as well as process data.

Principle three

*Youth programs must be designed and implemented that are **research based** or have evaluation that provide evidence that the programs used prevents or reduces drug use, violence, or disruptive behavior.*

Grantees shall take into consideration its needs assessment and measurable goals and objectives, select and implement programs that have demonstrated effectiveness or promise of effectiveness.

Principle four

*Programs must be **evaluated** to assess progress toward achieving the goals and objectives. The evaluation must be used to refine, improve, and strengthen the program and to refine its goals and objectives.*

Grantees shall assess their program and use the information about outcomes and fidelity of replication to re-evaluate existing programs efforts. Grantees shall use their evaluation results to report to the public on progress toward attaining measurable goals and objectives.

For more information about the SDFSCA Program and the Principles of Effectiveness go to:

www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/SDFS/nrgfin.pdf.

The six regional CAPTs are funded by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. For more information on this Tip of the CAPT or other WestCAPT services, please visit our web site: www.unr.edu/westcapt or our best practices website: www.open.org/westcapt.

Our toll-free office number is: (888) 734-7476